



HB 7075 School Choice

- Florida offers four scholarship programs that allow eligible students to attend private schools. The programs include scholarships for students with disabilities, low-income students and bullied students.
- The FTC Scholarship Program (FTC) offers scholarships to students from families with limited financial resources. Currently, there are over 100,000 low-income students participating in the program with, at least, another 13,000 students waiting to participate.
- Currently, no programs in the state offer private school choice scholarships for middle-income families.
- **HB 7075** establishes the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program (FESP) to provide parents of eligible students a scholarship to attend an eligible private school. The FESP will be funded by the state.
- The bill establishes initial eligibility for kindergarten and public school students in grades 1-12 students at 300% Federal Poverty Line and increases to 375% by 2022-2023.
- The bill prioritizes the students on the FTC waitlist to ensure they are first to receive the FESP scholarship.
- The bill establishes a scholarship amount that is 97% of the district average based upon the grade level of the student. This amount will also apply to students on the Hope Scholarship Program (HSP) and FTC Scholarship Program.
- The bill gives parents more flexibility to use a transportation scholarship, allowing funds for either inside or outside of the district.
- The bill requires annual reporting on the academic performance of students participating in HSP and FESP.
- The bill allows contributions by purchasers of motor vehicles to be used for FTC scholarships in addition to the HSP.